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ALLARD ANNOUNCES KICK-OFF OF THE SENATE RENEWABLE ENERGY CAUCUS

CHAIRMAN AIMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO), Co-Chairman of the Senate Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, announced the kick-off of the 2001 Caucus. The first briefing of the year is The State of the Renewable Energy Industries and Challenges They Are Facing.

"As Co-Chairman of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, I am excited that the Caucus is kicking off the year with a comprehensive overview of this growing industry," Allard said. "This meeting will shed some light on the issues facing these technologies and bring Senators and their staffs up to date on the current status of industry production."

The Senate Renewables and Energy Efficiency Caucus was founded in 1998 by Senator Allard, Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD), Senator Jim Jeffords (R-VT) and former Senator Bob Kerrey (D-NE). Allard serves as the Senate Caucus Co-Chairman with Senator Dorgan (D-ND). The Caucus is an informal, non-legislative and bi-partisan organization of 15 Democrats and 12 Republicans, promoting greater awareness and sharing ideas about renewable energy and energy efficiency.

"It is exciting that more than one quarter of the United States Senate has joined together in a bipartisan effort to promote discussion and the use of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies," Allard added. "Today's event is a continuation of our efforts to bring these technologies to the forefront of energy production discussions and increase awareness of the various forms of renewable energy."

The Senate Renewables and Energy Efficiency Caucus sponsors briefings, open house showcases, fact-finding trips and other events to educate Senators and their staffs about current developments in renewable energy and energy efficiency.